

ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
North Little Rock Hilton
North Little Rock, AR
March 9, 1998

8:00 a.m.

JOINT MEETING
Arkansas State Board of Higher Education
Arkansas State Board of Workforce Education
Workforce Development Commission

10:00 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes (February 9, 1998)
2. Chair's Report....Mr. Bill Fisher
3. Newly Employed, Promotions and Separations....Ms. Clemetta Hood-----C3
4. Arkansas Department of Education Organizational Change Request.....
Dr. Bobbie Davis-----C4
5. Final Approval of Rules and Regulations Governing the Arkansas Better Chance
Programs.....Ms. Glenda Bean-----C5
6. Final Approval of Waiver Request: Establishment of a Supplemental Support Program
within the School Day...Dr. Kevin Penix-----C6
 A. Van Buren School District
 B. Fordyce School District
7. Personnel RecommendationMs. Clemetta Hood -----C7

ACTION AGENDA

1. Director's Report....Mr. Raymond Simon
2. Approval for 1998-99 Arkansas Better Chance Grant Funding Levels
Ms. Glenda Bean-----A2

3. A. Recommendation: Plan and Explore.....Mr. Frank Anthony-----A3
B. Final Approval Rules and Regulations Governing the College Preparatory Enrichment Program (CPEP)....Mr. Frank Anthony
4. Final Approval of Rules and Regulations Governing the Distribution of Catastrophic Loss Funding.....Ms. Patricia Martin-----A4
5. Reconsideration of Request for Waiver of Denial of Application for Renewal by Reciprocity.....Ms. Theresa Wallent-----A5
6. Consideration of Revocation of Teaching Certificate ..Ms. Theresa Wallent----- A6
7. Status Report: Academic Distress Districts - Phase II....Mr. Frank Anthony-----A7
8. Commitment to Principles of Desegregation Settlement Agreement: Report on the Execution of the Implementation Plan.....Ms. Charity Smith-----A8
9. Teacher Licensure Advisory Committee UpdateMs. Donna Elliott-----A9
10. Affirmative Action Workforce Data ...Ms. Clemetta Hood -----A10

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

March 8 and 9, 1998

Minutes

The State Board of Education met on **Sunday, March 8, 1998** at 5:00 p.m. at the Riverfront Hilton, North Little Rock.

Members Present: Bill Fisher, Chair, Luke Gordy, Vice Chair, Carl Baggett, JoNell Caldwell, Martha Dixon, Jim McLarty, Betty Pickett, Lewis Thompson, Sherry Walker and Anita Yates.

Members Absent: Edwin Alderson and Richard Smith

Mr. Fisher called the meeting to order and stated that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss current Arkansas teacher education programs and the new teacher licensure system. The Chair recognized Dr. Charles Stegman, Dean College of Education, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville; Dr. Bonnie Lynch, Dean College of Education, Arkansas State University; and Dr. Dennis Fleniken, Dean College of Education, Arkansas Tech University.

Deans Stegman, Lynch and Fleniken presented information about programs at their respective universities. (Attachments I and II) Each school is in the process of redesigning its teacher education program to align with the new teacher licensure system. Changes include extended field experience, public school partnerships and professional development opportunities for public school faculties.

The Deans expressed support for the new licensure system.

When asked to share concerns regarding the new system, the Deans listed the following: documentation, funding of the induction period and assessment.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Monday, March 9, 1998

The State Board of Education met on **Monday, March 9, 1998**, at the Riverfront Hilton Inn, North Little Rock, AR.

Members Present: Bill Fisher, Chair, Luke Gordy, Vice Chair, Carl Baggett, JoNell Caldwell, Martha Dixon, Jim McLarty, Betty Pickett, Richard Smith, Lewis Thompson, Sherry Walker and Anita Yates.

Members Absent: Edwin Alderson

At 8:00 a.m. the Board joined in a combined meeting including the Arkansas Department of Higher Education, Arkansas State Board of Workforce Education, and the Workforce Development Commission. Members of each board were introduced by directors of the respective agencies. Steve Franks highlighted statutory requirements that created the Workforce Develop Commission and outlined work that led to recommendations being presented. Dr. Franks introduced Dr. Robert Taylor, Silver City, NM, who served as a consultant to the Commission in the development of its recommendations pursuant to the legislative requirements. Members of the Commission presented a series of recommendation supporting workforce readiness of public school students. (Attachment III is the full text of the Commission report.)

The joint meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Bill Fisher, Chair, called the meeting of the State Board of Education to order at 10:15 a.m.

The following corrections to the February minutes were suggested: Betty Pickett - The meeting she attended was the Excellence in Arkansas Public Education Task Force; She abstained on the motion to grant Sheena McGuire probationary status for two years and three months. Sherry Walker requested that the minutes reflect that Committee #3 recommended that staff pursue development of the Refrigerator Curriculum documents for grade level 5-12.

Mr. McLarty moved that the minutes be approved as amended. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair invited Board members to share school visits and Board activities since the last meeting.

Mr. Baggett: Postponed his scheduled visit to the regional service cooperative. Participated in the school breakfast program at Elmwood Junior High in Rogers.

Mr. Smith: Participated in the breakfast program at an elementary school. Met with Joyce Vaught, Lake Village in preparation for the May meeting of the Board to be held in Lake Village.

Ms. Yates: Participated in the breakfast program. Attended the board meeting of the Northwest Arkansas Regional Cooperative in Springdale. Toured schools in Decatur, Gentry, West Fork, and Greenland.

Dixon: Attended meeting on teacher licensure at Henderson State University. Attended the board meeting of the South Central Service Cooperative in Camden. Dixon reported that the cooperative representatives noted that this was the first time that a member of the State Board had ever attended one of their meetings. She relayed a request for access to the State Board Agenda. Visited Gurdon School District and participated in the breakfast program at Parrett Elementary School in Arkadelphia.

McLarty: Participated in the breakfast program in Augusta Elementary and stayed to work as a teacher's aid during the morning. Shared with the Board a report from the Ohio Department of Education that might serve as a model for Arkansas. (Attachment IV) Provided Board members a copy of report from U.S. Education Week that compared per pupil expenditures across the country. He noted that it would take an additional \$2,000 per student in per pupil expenditure to reach the national average.

Pickett: Attended meeting of the Arkansas Business Education Alliance on February 17. Joe Kelly, Kentucky Board of Education was speaker. He described the Partnership for Kentucky Schools and the progress that has been made. This is a similar program that Lee Gordon has developed in Arkansas. She will attend the Excellence in Arkansas Public Education Task Force meeting on March 11. Participated in the breakfast program at Sally Cone Elementary School in Conway.

Thompson: Participated in the breakfast program in Washington Elementary School in Texarkana where he stayed to observe classes and visit with teachers.

Caldwell: Visited in the Hampton district. She chose this school because she felt that the superintendent did not have a positive feeling for the Board after his presentation on the 2.0 alternative program. Noted that Hampton is the home school for the National Beta Club secretary. Attended a meeting of ADE staff with the Carlisle School Board. Reported that staff did an excellent job in providing information and leadership for the Carlisle Board. Participated in the breakfast program at Lakeside Elementary School in Hot Springs and attended the Shareholders' Retreat last weekend.

Walker: Invited to observe Grade 3 Quiz Bowl at Fairpark Elementary School in Little Rock.

Gordy: Participated in the breakfast program in Van Buren Middle School. Invited to lunch prepared by students in Coleman Junior High School in Van Buren in celebration of National Vocational Education Week. Attended the Shareholders' Retreat at which the major topics included licensure, assessment, core curriculum and frameworks, and public engagement. Positive conversation with legislators who also attended Shareholders' Retreat.

Fisher: Participated in the breakfast program at London Elementary School. Attended a meeting of school administrators in east Arkansas. Visited on the campus of Arkansas State University with professors and school administrators to discuss the issue of professional development. Attended the Arkansas Leadership Academy.

Mr. Fisher requested that Board members complete their visits to the cooperatives by the end of April and report no later than the May meeting.

Mr. Fisher reminded Board members that they must provide receipts for lodging and other expenses for which they request reimbursement. An envelope is provided at each meeting for these materials.

Mr. Fisher reported that Consent Agenda Item #5, Final Approval of Rules and Regulations Governing the Arkansas Better Chance Programs, had been removed and will be considered at the April meeting.

Mr. Fisher reported that Mr. Gordy had resigned as chair of the Nominating Committee for personal reasons. Mr. Baggett was named to replace him as chair of the Nominating Committee. He instructed the Committee that a report was due at the May meeting.

Mr. Smith moved the adoption of the Consent Agenda - except Item #5. Ms. Yates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Fisher informed the Board that Mr. Simon requested that an item be added to the Action Agenda to clarify Rules and Regulations for Arkansas Compulsory Attendance Requirements. He reminded the Board that a 2/3 majority vote was required to add an item to the Agenda. Ms. Walker moved that an item be added to clarify Rules and Regulations for Compulsory Attendance Requirements. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION AGENDA

Director's Report

Mr. Simon reported that the staff was studying concerns raised about the high school proficiency exam. There is a meeting scheduled on March 10 with Data Recognition Corporation who is the contractor for development and administration of the test. Staff will convene a committee to include teachers who worked on the development committee and other groups concerned about the exam. There will be a survey to collect information from schools to compare student scores on the proficiency exam compared with other standardized exams such as the ACT and/or the normed referenced test. It is our plan to have a recommendation on the exam by June 30, 1998.

Ms. Pickett requested that as the Department studies the performance test efforts should be made to include people who have an unbiased view on the process.

Mr. Simon distributed a report from Dr. Penix updating the progress of the State Professional Development Plan Advisory Committee. (Attachment V) Staff will seek assistance from the Leadership Academy to formalize help to schools on specific professional development issues identified by the schools.

The APSCN transition is progressing. However, APSCN will remain as an entity until all liabilities are met and assets are moved to the Department. Action is underway to move thirty

nine (39) APSCN employees to positions within the Department of Education. Nine APSCN employees will become staff of the Department of Information Services (DIS). The APSCN Board will compensate some employees for benefits that are not available under state personnel guidelines. All employees will be placed who remained APSCN employees. Simon reiterated to the board that the function of APSCN will continue and will be under the management of the Director. Many meetings with Clarence Durand, (DIS), Jim Boardman and the Director have been conducted to assure a smooth transition. It is clearly understood that management of the network will remain a Department function. A Director's Memo has been prepared to explain the new structure to schools. It has been decided that the APSCN name will be retained for continuity. Those APSCN staff will continue to be housed at the Main Street location. Department staff will continually monitor the progress of the APSCN functions and will be in a position to respond immediately should a crisis arise. Other recommendations may be made should the need arise.

The DIS will assume the computing responsibilities for the Department. Five employees formerly in the ADE computer operations systems have been transferred to DIS.

Mr. Simon recognized Lee Gordon from the Arkansas Business Education Alliance for a report of Alliance activities. Mr. Gordon reported that the Arkansas Scholars Program has been a great success. Through this program business have become active in classrooms supporting students during their high school years. Twenty-six school districts are in some phase of adoption of the program. (Attachment VI)

Approval for 1998-99 Arkansas Better Chance Grant Funding Levels

The level of funding of ABC grants has become an issue since there has not been an increase in the funding level since the 91-92 school year. Grantees now must pay fixed charges including teacher retirement in addition to increased operational costs. Staff recommends that funding of grants remain constant for the current year which will allow summer programs to continue as in the past. The Board will have to reconsider funding levels for the next biennium. Ms. Bean advised the Board that it is important that schools be informed as to the level of funding to expect for the coming year. It is apparent that additional funds will be needed just to maintain the same level of service. Mr. McLarty moved that the funding level be maintained for one year and that additional funding be sought for the next biennium. Ms. Yates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Smith excused himself from this discussion and vote to avoid a possible conflict of interest.

Reconsideration of Request for Waiver of Denial of Application for Renewal by Reciprocity: William Clemmons

Mr. Fisher informed the parties of the procedures to be followed during the hearing. Staff attorney will have 10 minutes to outline the issues for consideration. Mr. Clemmons will have 10

minutes to present new information. Staff will have five minutes for follow-up. Questions from the Board will follow.

Theresa Wallent stated that Mr. Clemmons requests that the hearing be conducted in an executive session of the Board. Ms. Wallent advised the board that such an executive session was not within the law in that the only reason that a public Board can go into executive session was for personnel reasons.

Ms. Wallent summarized for the Board the conditions under which the Board originally acted to deny the renewal of Mr. Clemmons teaching certificate. She informed the Board that this hearing is necessary to meet the conditions in the law that Mr. Clemmons has the right to be present at a hearing before the Board. She outlined possible actions that the Board may take: revoke the certificate, suspend the certificate for a period of time, or renew the certification for a probationary period during which additional information may be provided.

Mr. Clemmons presented his case before the Board. He stated that the situation that caused the conviction resulted from paying employees who worked on a grant that he received that had a condition of state matching funding. That state funding - which he was led to believe would be appropriated - in fact, did not materialize. He received funds and paid expenses with funds that he did not have. Thus, he falsified payroll accounts and subsequently was convicted for falsifying records. Clemmons told the Board that he was employed as a teacher in the New York City School System which has given him opportunities for growth in education. He's seeking renewal of his certificate so that he has the option of returning to Arkansas, his home state, and being a productive educator in the state. He stated that he would be willing to withdraw his application for renewal of the certificate if the Board sees that as the only option. He noted that the state of New York has seen fit to give him a second chance, and he has proven to be an asset to the educational system.

Mr. McLarty questioned the timeline on the conviction and the request renewal. Specifically, McLarty asked if the conviction was before July 3, 1989. Wallent responded that she did not know. Ms. Walker asked Mr. Clemmons if he had sought a presidential pardon. He responded that he was in the process of seeking a pardon in the state of New York and that he had not sought a presidential pardon. He indicated that he believed that the New York pardon was forthcoming.

Ms. Walker moved that Mr. Clemmons's certificate be renewed with a probationary status for the period of one year giving him time to receive the pardon. The motion required Mr. Clemmons to report his status to the board in one year. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. McLarty requested that Ms. Wallent research the date of conviction and report to the Board at the April meeting.

Consideration of Revocation of Teaching Certificate - John Hickman

Mr. Fisher outlined the process to be followed for the hearing. Staff attorney will have 10 minutes to present the case. Mr. Hickman or his attorney will have 10 minutes to address the Board, staff will have five minutes for follow-up. Board will be allowed to ask questions at the close of the presentations.

Theresa Wallent reviewed the detail of the case as presented in the Agenda. Ms. Wallent informed the Board that they have the following options in this case: revoke the certificate permanently; suspend the certificate for a specific amount of time; place on probationary status for a specific amount of time; or accept the voluntary surrender of the license.

Mr. Hickman was represented by Jeanne Richards, attorney. Ms. Richards indicated that there were a number of patrons from the Gould School District who would like to speak, but would not be allowed to be heard. She stated that Mr. Hickman was considered to be a gifted teacher who attempts to reach students who are at risk - his actions were directed to helping students. She noted that he has the ability to reach out to students.

Mr. Hickman stated that this was the first time in 16 years that he has not been working in education. "It hurts," he said. He asked the Board for another chance.

Questions from the Board included the following: Where are you employed at this time? Selling vacuum cleaners and taking classes in seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. What other position have you held in Arkansas? Principal at Central High School in Little Rock. Why did you leave? Allegations of misuse of funds that were settled out of court. If your Texas certificate still valid? Yes.

Ms. Wallent reviewed the Board's options. In response to the question what would happen to Mr. Hickman's Texas certificate, Wallent responded that Arkansas would notify the Texas Department of Education if the Board voted to revoke the certificate.

Mr. McLarty moved that the Board revoke the license. McLarty stated that his motion was based on students being deprived of the money. Ms. Yates seconded the motion.

Mr. Hickman asked if the \$47,000 was the primary issue. He stated that the money in question was spent on students. He did not gain. Ms. Walker stated that you plead nolo contendere to the accusation - those arguments should have been made in a court of law.

Ms. Dixon made a substitute motion to place Mr. Hickman on three year suspension beginning on June 13, 1997 and reconsider the issue at the end of that time. Mr. Smith seconded the substitute motion. The substitute motion failed. (McLarty, Pickett, Caldwell, Walker, Gordy, Yates and Baggett voted no.)

The main motion passed. (Dixon, Thompson and Smith voted no.)

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:15 p.m.

Recommendation : Plan and Explore and Final Approval of Rules and Regulations Governing the College Preparatory Enrichment Program (CPEP)

Frank Anthony reviewed information concerning the study conducted pursuant to the perceived use of the Plan and Explore tests by state schools. Mr. Anthony reported that 75% of the schools voluntarily participate in these testing programs. School administrators request the option of continued funding of these tests. Mr. Anthony recommended that the Board continue the Department funding of these test through the 1998-99 school year. He presented a letter from Dr. Steve Franks, Director of the State Department of Workforce Education, stating that Workforce Education would fund those tests beginning with the 1999-2000 school year and beginning then and in subsequent years those test would be administered in that Department.

(Attachment) VII

Mr. McLarty noted that one of the downfalls of the committee system is that not all Board members have the opportunity to hear discussion of all topics. This is a case in point. McLarty requested additional information about the purpose of the two tests. Mr. Anthony summarized the grade levels and the purpose of the tests. Ms. Pickett moved the adoption of staff recommendation to fund the tests for 1998-99 and to include a copy of the Franks letter as an attachment to the minutes. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Anthony stated that this decision now makes it possible to pursue the Final Rules and Regulations Governing the College Preparatory Enrichment Program. He noted that the Agenda book includes many letters from school superintendents and cooperative directors strongly supporting the distribution of funds based on the poverty index. Ms. Pickett reminded the Board that this method of funding does not assure that all of these funds go to students who score 18 or below. She cited school districts such as Greenbrier, Arkadelphia, and Grady that would lose funding if the program is funded based on the poverty index. Mr. Anthony indicated that these in fact are isolated examples where this method of funding penalizes districts. However, even some of these administrators have indicated support for the poverty index formula. Mr. Gordy moved to accept the Department's recommendation and approve the Rules and Regulations as presented with a commitment from the Department to statistically analyze the program's effectiveness based on funding by the poverty index as opposed to funding based on the actual number of students who score 18 or below on the ACT and report those finding to the board within one year. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed. (Walker, Pickett and McLarty voted no.)

Status Report: Academic Distress Districts

The Chair recognized Frank Anthony for a report on the status of the Academic Distress Districts. Mr. Anthony reported to the Board that staff visited the Elaine District on February 19, and

Alzheimer on February 16-17. Reports are due to Anthony's office soon. Staff will officially report on the recommended status of these districts as well as those in Phase I at the April meeting. The April report will also include recommendations for any new schools that may be added to the distressed list.

Ms Yates moved the acceptance of this report. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Final Approval of Rules and Regulations Governing the Distribution of Catastrophic Loss Funding.

The Chair recognized Patricia Martin to summarize the actions since the February meeting. Ms. Martin reported that public hearings had been completed and the primary recommendation was that the full \$2.3 million should be spent. She also reported that staff had carefully reviewed the legislation prior to making these final recommendations. The staff recommendation includes funding the 44 districts who received fiscal crisis funding in the previous year and allocate the remaining money to schools who qualify under the loss of students. McLarty questioned if schools continued to qualify for some phase down funding if they were in the hold harmless category in 1995-96. Ms. Martin responded that 12 school districts continue to experience a loss of maintenance and operation funding from 1995-96 to 1997-98. Pickett stated that she had a problem with the process under which these funds were being allocated. She noted that in February the Board made one recommendation, and now staff comes back with different recommendations. She feels that there was nothing new or different in the public comment that had not been previously considered. She stated that the process used must be able to withstand a legal challenge. It is her opinion that only districts reporting a loss should be funded, and she agrees that the full amount should be spent. Pickett moved that the section under "fiscal crisis" go back to the February recommendation which holds districts harmless for maintenance and operation loss, then distributes the balance to catastrophic loss of students. (This implies that the list not stop at the 5% level, but go as far as possible with the funds available.) Mr. McLarty seconded the motion. Mr. Gordy made a substitute motion to approve the Department recommendation as printed in the Rules and Regulations. Ms. Yates seconded the substitute motion. Ms. Pickett challenged the procedure of accepting a substitute motion in this case. The Chair ruled that a substitute motion was in order. The substitute motion passed. (McLarty, Pickett, and Walker voted no.)

Commitment to Principles of Desegregation Settlement Agreement: Report on the Execution of the Implementation Plan.

The Chair recognized Charity Smith to make this report. Ms. Smith highlighted components of the printed report. Staff hosted a meeting of all the parties in the case on February 18 to discuss the monitoring process. Good exchange occurred. The parties agree to meet again in the near future. Concerns included reducing the amount of data collected and to be sure that data collected are analyzed and used in the decision making process in the schools.

Mr. Smith moved the acceptance the this report. Ms. Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Teacher Licensure Advisory Committee Update

The Chair recognized Donna Elliott to make this report. The first meeting of the Advisory Committee was February 6. Future meeting dates were set to accommodate the due date for action by this Committee. At the February 6 meeting, committee members self selected into three work groups. Staff is receiving materials from other states that will be helpful to the work of the Committee.

Mr. McLarty, chair of a sub-committee named at the fall retreat, reported that the sub-committee recommends that Department staff be reassigned or that additional staff be added to assist with the work of implementing the licensure guidelines. (Sub-committee members are McLarty, Pickett and Dixon.) The Sub-committee presented a "Mission Statement" supporting the work of the Teacher Licensure Advisory Committee. (Attachment) ✓✓✓

Mr. Gordy moved that the Board accept the report presented by Ms. Elliott and the Mission Statement to clarify the Board's commitment to the new licensure standards. Mr. McLarty seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Affirmative Action Workforce Data

The Chair recognized Clemetta Hood to make this report. Ms. Hood informed the Board that data collected over the past year was summarized in the printed report that was distributed. She asked if there were questions from the Board. Ms. Yates moved the adoption of this report. Mr. Baggett seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Committee Reports (The Board will act as a committee of the whole to consider any action from the standing committees.)

Committee #1, Mr. Baggett reporting. Please complete the data form in the information packet and return it to Dr. Bobbie Davis. (Attachment) ✓

Committee #2, Mr. McLarty reporting. McLarty called on Jim Boardman for an update on the progress of approval of state technology plans. Boardman reported that 308 plans out of 311 have been received. Of these 262 have been approved. Staff has worked in districts and in cooperatives to assist districts with this process.

Committee #3, Sherry Walker reporting. The Committee ^{is} interested in beginning discussion on a revision of standards that will include components for schools, teachers, and students. The Committee would like for Department staff to consider what would have to be done to move this discussion forward.

Clarification of Rules and Regulations on Arkansas Compulsory Attendance Requirements

Mr. Simon reviewed for the Board the provisions of the Rules and Regulations specifically providing for a change in the eligibility date when a student can enter school. The law requires a two-year phase-in period essentially moving the enrollment cut-off date of October 1 to September 1. The Rules and Regulation (Paragraph 3.02) define that phase in for the 1998-99 school year be set at September 15. This means that for a student to enter kindergarten, he/she must be five years of age on or before September 15, 1998. Paragraph 3.03 establishes that kindergarten students must be five years of age on or before September 1 to enroll in the year 1999-2000 and beyond.

Paragraph 3.04 of the Rules and Regulations provides options for schools which have at least 50% of their students who qualify for free lunches. Specifically those schools may retain the October 1 birth date for entry into kindergarten.

The issue has become, can a district, for whatever reason, ignore the phase in period and set September 1 as the cut-off birth date for students to enter kindergarten. Staff interprets the rules and regulations and recommends that schools may **not** ignore the phase in year and set September 1 as the cut off date for entry into kindergarten for the 1998-99 school year. For 1998-99, any child who has a birth date on or before September 15 should be allowed to enter kindergarten. (Under Paragraph 3.04 qualifying schools may set a date between September 15 and October 1.)

Mr. Smith moved approval of staff recommendation. Ms. Caldwell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Smith reported that he has made arrangements for the Board to meet in Lake Village in May. He is working with Joyce Vaught, Superintendent of Lakeside School District in Lake Village, to host the board. Mr. Fisher stated that a Sunday business session would be needed so that the Board can visit in schools on Monday.

Mr. McLarty moved adjournment. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Recorded by Dr. Charles D. Watson

Bill Fisher, Chair

Raymond Simon, Executive Secretary